

Federal Election Commission reports filed this week show sitting House members far ahead.

With several congressional races shaping up as potentially competitive among the six members who represent all or part of Orange County, incumbents are getting serious about early fundraising, based on Federal Election Commission reports filed Thursday.

Incumbents have substantially outraised their challengers early in this 2010 election cycle. And Rep. Ed Royce continues to lead his colleagues in amassing campaign contributions.

The latest filing covers contributions made from June 30th through Sept. 30.

Royce, R-Fullerton, who has no primary challenger in the 40th District and no Democratic rival yet on the horizon, has raised \$719,773, \$328,796 of it during this period. So far Royce has gotten \$286,545 from political action committees. As of Sept. 30 he had \$2,638,340.

Royce and other candidates can have more money than has been collected this year because candidates can carry money over from previous campaigns. With no challengers on the horizon, Royce continues to funnel money to the GOP. He gave the National Republican Campaign Committee \$25,000 during the last quarter.

The one congressional race so far where significant money has been raised for a primary challenge is in the 47th, where state Assemblyman Van Tran and businessman Quant Pham will compete to challenge Rep. Loretta Sanchez, D-Santa Ana.

Tran, who has been recruited and encouraged by the NRCC, has so far substantially outraised Pham, who has never run for office before.

Tran has raised \$345,730 compared with the \$126,358 Pham has raised. And Pham personally

contributed nearly half - \$62,500.

As of Sept. 30, Tran had \$282,562 in cash on hand compared with Pham's \$117.63.

Pham said he underestimated how difficult fundraising would be and the advantage Tran has in being a sitting assemblyman and having a built in Rolodex.

Tran said his campaign is "very much on track with our fundraising plan" and he has at least another dozen more fundraising events coming up.

Sanchez, D-Santa Ana, has so far raised \$479,090 with \$134,838 coming during this quarter. She got \$258,542 in PAC money and ended the period with \$769,010 in the bank.

Rep. Gary Miller, R-Diamond Bar, has a primary challenger in Lee McGroarty.

But so far the money sweepstakes in that 42nd District is lopsided.

Miller has raised \$155,425, \$30,900 during this period. PACs have given \$73,000 to Miller who had \$906,953 cash on hand as of Sept. 30.

McGroarty has just recently announced his intention to run against Miller and so far has \$5,100 in his campaign treasury.

In the 44th District, where Rep. Ken Calvert won re-election two years ago by less than one percent, the Corona Republican says he is "motivated to raise money and a lot of my friends back home are volunteering to raise money.

"This time I'm going to leave no chances out there. I'm going to make sure we raise a significant amount of money and do the ground game a little different."

Calvert has so far raised \$771,001, with \$230,816 coming in during this period. He's gotten \$314,375 in PAC money and as of Sept. 30 had \$511,308 cash on hand.

Democrat Bill Hedrick, who will make his second run at Calvert next year, has so far raised \$150,670, \$43,796 of that this period. Hedrick got \$33,000 in PAC money and had \$74,445 cash on hand as of Sept. 30.

"There's a lot of time left between now and when large expenditures will be made in these campaigns," said Hedrick, president of the Corona-Norco school board and a union leader. "I know we're going to have the resources we need to deliver our message."

Hedrick said he has raised several times what he had at this point in 2007.

In the 48th District, incumbent Rep. John Campbell, R-Irvine is outraising his Democratic challenger Irvine City Councilwoman Beth Krom.

Campbell has so far raised \$425,149 with \$141,835 coming this period. He has \$749,531 cash on hand.

"I'm certainly raising money more aggressively than I have in the past," said Campbell. "I want to send the message out and make it clear that this campaign will absolutely be fully funded."

Campbell said he knows he is being targeted by some Washington, D.C. groups because President Barack Obama carried the 48th District in 2008.

Krom, who is hoping to capitalize on that support, has so far raised \$209,885, with \$79,494 this period. She has \$126,326 cash on hand.

"I have no illusions about the fact that this is going to be a hard-fought campaign," said Krom. "I'm not going to measure my numbers against his numbers."

Krom said while Campbell raised nearly half his money - \$177,313, from PACs, she raised all but \$15,896 from "real people."

No one has yet announced to challenge 46th District Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Huntington Beach.

Rohrabacher has raised \$100,715 so far, \$37,120 of that this period. He received \$33,400 in PAC money and had \$259,490 cash on hand as of Sept. 30.